

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. An information read/write apparatus comprising:

read device for reading one or more pieces of program information stored on a first information storage medium;

write device for writing said program information read from said first information storage medium onto a second information storage medium;

detector means for detecting an interruption of at least any one of a read operation of said read device and a write operation of said write device in the course of writing said program information by said write device;

determination means for determining a write status of program information on said second information storage medium at the time of said interruption, when said detector means has detected the interruption; and

control means for controlling said read device and said write device, upon restarting writing said program information by said write device and in response to the write status determined by said determination means, to continue a write operation on said second information storage medium from the program information to be read subsequent to the program information at the time of said interruption or to perform a rewrite operation on said second information storage medium from said program information at the time of said interruption.

2. The information read/write apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said detector means detects an interruption due to a power failure at least at any one of said read device or said write device.

3. The information read/write apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said determination means determines the write status of whether the program information at the time of said interruption has been written to its end or incompletely.

4. The information read/write apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means controls and thereby allows said write device to write information indicative of the write status determined by said determination means onto said second information storage medium.

5. The information read/write apparatus according to claim 3, wherein when said determination means determines that the program information at the time of the interruption has been written to its end, said control means allows, upon continuing said write operation, said read device and said write device to continue a write operation from the program information to be read subsequent to the program information at the time of said interruption on said second information storage medium.

6. The information read/write apparatus according to claim 3, wherein when said determination means determines that the program information at the time of said interruption has been written incompletely, said control means allows, upon performing said rewrite operation, said read device and said write device to erase the program information at the time of said interruption, having already been written on said second information storage medium, and perform a rewrite operation on said second information storage medium from the program information corresponding to said erased program information of the program information stored on said first information storage medium.

7. An information read/write method for reading one or more pieces of program information stored on a first information storage medium and writing said program information onto a second information storage medium, comprising:

detecting an interruption of any one of said read operation and said write operation in the course of writing said program information onto said second information storage medium,

determining a write status of program information on said second information storage medium at the time of said interruption when said interruption has been detected, and

upon restarting writing said program information and in response to the write status determined, continuously performing a write operation on said second information storage medium from program information to be read subsequent to the program information at the time of said interruption or performing a rewrite operation on said second information storage medium from said program information at the time of said interruption.

8. The information read/write method according to claim 7, wherein

determining said write status is to determine the write status of whether the program information at the time of said interruption has been written to its end or incompletely,

when it is determined that the program information at the time of said interruption has been written to its end, said step of performing read and write operations in response to said write status continues a write operation on said second information storage medium from the program information to be read subsequent to the program information at the time of said interruption, and

when it is determined that the program information at the time of said

interruption has been written incompletely, said step of performing read and write operations in response to said write status erases the program information at the time of said interruption, having been already written on said second information storage medium, and performs a rewrite operation on said second information storage medium from the program information corresponding to said erased program information of the program information stored on said first information storage medium.

9. A program storage medium storing a read and write procedure program to allow a computer to perform read and write operations for reading one or more pieces of program information stored on a first information storage medium and writing said program information onto a second information storage medium, said read and write procedure program comprising the procedure steps of:

detecting an interruption of any one of said read operation and said write operation,

determining a write status of program information on said second information storage medium at the time of said interruption when said interruption has been detected, and

upon restarting said write operation and in response to said write status determined, continuously performing a write operation on said second information storage medium from program information to be read subsequent to the program information at the time of said interruption, or performing a rewrite operation on said second information storage medium from said program information at the time of said interruption.